

PROF. J. M. SCHAEFERLE BACK

HE HAS PROVED A THEORY, HE SAYS,
WHICH IS OF VALUE TO SCIENCE.IN CHILI HE TOOK THE LARGEST PHOTOGRAPHS
OF THE ECLIPSE OF THE SUN WHICH HAVE
EVER BEEN TAKEN AND HAS SECURED
FULL DETAILS OF THE CORONA.

Professor J. M. Schaeferle, of the Lick Observatory, stepped from the deck of the Pacific Mail steamer City of Para yesterday with an elastic stride and a contented look on his face. His skin was bronzed by the tropical sun to which it had been exposed for the last four months or more, but his eyes were clear, and there was no trace in his appearance of the hardships which he had undergone in the pursuit of science.

He had every reason to feel satisfied with himself. In fact, the reason was that he had just returned from a trip, which, if taken in one direction, would extend half-way around the earth, for the sake of proving a theory which he had about the cause of the corona of the sun as it appears during a total eclipse, and he had the satisfaction of knowing that his former beliefs had been substantiated. Further than this, he had taken the largest photographs which have ever been taken of an eclipse of the sun, and had secured details of the formation of the corona which are much more full than any which have been hitherto secured.

To do this he was compelled to take a journey of nearly 12,000 miles, in a country where all kinds of facilities for travel were lacking. He succeeded in doing just exactly what he started out to do, however, and that to him is compensation enough for all the inconveniences and hardships which he had to undergo.

Professor Schaeferle has been considered an authority on solar phenomena for some time, and he has written a good deal in scientific journals about the cause of the solar corona which makes its appearance during an eclipse. He was extremely anxious to get some photographs of the appearance of the sun while behind the moon on April 16 last, but for a time it did not seem possible for him to do so. He is on the staff of the Lick Observatory, and that institution, although anxious to have the work done,

which I had before making these observations is proved, I think, without a doubt."

Prof. Schaeferle's theory, which he went to South America to prove, was that the beautiful corona which appears every time there is a total eclipse of the sun was caused by the fact that the sun was covered with immense volcanoes which continually belched out great masses of molten material, which the sun drew back to it with a speed which could not be realized. The corona, it might be explained, for the benefit of those who are not particularly familiar with



J. M. SCHAEFERLE.

astronomical terms, is the ring of light which appears about the moon every time it gets between the earth and the sun and causes a total eclipse. Many theories have been put forward concerning the cause of the phenomenon. As said before, Professor Schaeferle believed that the corona was caused by the sun being covered with volcanoes, and it was for the purpose of testing the truth of it that he went to South America. He believes that he has settled the question, and if where he has done good deal for science. This is the first time that accurate or satisfactory information has been printed about what Professor Schaeferle really accomplished.

The picture of the corona printed herewith is the one as shown on the big telescope with the extended tube. The picture, however, shows the main features of the phenomenon, but the picture of the big telescope gives an excellent idea of the arrangement which the professor fixed up. The instrument was entirely covered with canvas, and the one who worked it was inside the "house" at the eye end of the instrument when the observations were being taken.

The astronomer was warm in his praises of the members of the firm of Toulouk, Valer & Co., the



THE TELESCOPE AND CAMERA.

did not have the funds to accomplish it. The point of totality was away down in South America, and it would require an expensive journey to carry out the project. It had been practically given up when Mrs. Phoebe Hearst, of San Francisco, came forward with the money, and the work was naturally allotted to Professor Schaeferle.

He had hoped to take a trained assistant with him to help in performing such delicate work as would have to be done on this occasion, but when he began to figure up the cost of traveling in that practically unhabited country, with the high rates of transportation which he must pay, he found that he would have to go alone, ask for more money, or give the trip up entirely. He chose the former course, and now has the satisfaction of having accomplished alone this herculean task for the benefit of science. Professor Schaeferle started from San Francisco on January 25 last. The eclipse took place on April 16, and after it was over he packed up his instruments and came back as soon as possible. The length of time which it took him to reach New York gives a slight idea of the length and difficulties of the trip. In talking with the writer yesterday he was enthusiastic about the results of his trip.

"Yes," he said, "my mechanical theory of the solar corona has been proved by the monumental photographic plate. I am perfectly satisfied with the results of my voyage. Everything went well from beginning to end and I could not have had better weather if I had had it made to order."

"My first stopping place," he continued in answer to questions from the reporter, "was Carrizal, in Chile. There I was met by Mr. King, the British Consul, who gave me invaluable assistance all the time I was in South America. At this point I made a number of observations for the purpose of finding the latitude and longitude of the place and the surrounding mountains so I might start out in my search for an observatory site with a definite point in view. From there I went to Yumbina, and found that that place was twenty-five miles one side of the line of the totality of the eclipse. The place was about twenty-five miles from the coast and it was connected by a railroad. The next day I took a train for Merceditas and I found that this town was just five miles from the line of totality. It was also less than 3,000 feet above the sea level and surrounding hills made it an undesirable place for my work."

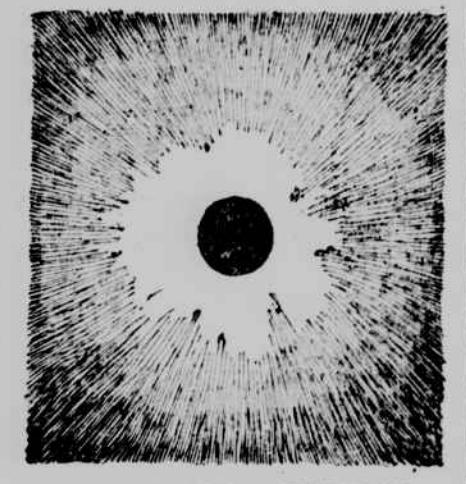
"Luckily, I learned that there was a copper mine in the mountains about fifteen miles away in the right direction and about 4,000 feet higher than the place just mentioned. I decided to make a trial of this place and I found it suited my requirements perfectly. It was 7,000 feet above the sea level and the presence of the mining people made my task a much easier one than it would have been if I had been obliged to depend upon natives for assistance. In coming to the place I had kept my chronometer running all the time, even when on homeward, for the purpose of getting accurate observations of the position. I found that this spot was very nearly within the line of totality. But to make sure of my observations I went back to Carrizal, Chile and checked all the observations which I had made."

"The instruments, which weighed nearly a ton, were then shipped by rail from the coast to Merceditas and from there over rough mountain roads in mining carts and on mule back to the vicinity of the mining camp, about seven miles. Then I went to work to put up the instruments. There were eight big telescopes and the mines and it was due to their intelligent assistance that my work was made much easier than it otherwise would have been. I started at work immediately."

"Naturally the big forty-foot telescope with a five-inch lens was first attended to, as that was the only one which required any great degree of care. It had to be placed in exactly the position that it was to occupy at the moment of the eclipse, and once placed in position it could not be moved at the critical time. Consequently, I had to make careful observations to get the instrument pointed at the place in the sky which would be occupied by the sun and the moon at the instant of totality. As the instrument was fastened to the side of the hill a mistake, though ever so small, in making this computation would be fatal so far as getting any views with this, the most important of all the glasses. The plates used in the big telescope were eleven by twenty-two inches. Besides the big instrument I had a Clark equatorial, with a six-inch lens and a six-foot focus; a six-inch Dallmeier lens, with a three-foot focus, and two small cameras. In all I made about fifty negatives of the corona. I made eight negatives with the big telescope, which are larger than any which have ever before been taken by anybody of any eclipse."

"The big telescope was in place a month before the day of the eclipse, and I made a number of observations every night to discover the absorption of the atmosphere. I also photographed a number of the important southern clusters of stars and bodies which cannot be seen in the northern sky. I was there four weeks, and there was only one day in that time on which, if the eclipse had taken place, it could not have been seen. All the remainder of the time the air was as clear as one could wish."

"On the big plates the corona shows the full length of the plates, and the details are brought out with great precision. The photographs taken with the smaller instruments are also valuable. They do not show the corona so far away from the sun, naturally, but the inner corona is brought out well. The theory



THE ECLIPSE—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.

who also went to South America to get some views of the eclipse. The Lick astronomer's instruments were also larger than those which were used in Chile, and the pictures are consequently much larger and take in a greater area.

From what the photographs show, Professor Schaeferle firmly believes that his theory that the corona was caused by the masses of molten material being thrown from the volcanoes of the sun, and that the material is then drawn back again at terrific speed, is true. These mechanical actions cause the lines which the photographs show. The journey was a successful one from every point of view.

TRANSATLANTIC TRAVELLERS

There was much life and activity about the steamship pier yesterday, and it was an unusually busy "steamer day." The infant and her sister sailed on the French Line steamer La Touraine. Among the other passengers on the French steamer were Mme. de Oliveira, who is going to Europe with the body of her husband, the Brazilian Commissioner; Judge and Mrs. George P. Andrews, John E. Barry, the Duchess de Castelnuovo, Cavalier Luigi E. Colmaro, General William Cutting, H. Perceval Dodge, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Denney, Mr. and Mrs. John H. Davis, Howard M. Earle, Charles Edward Haywood, George Haywood, John Hunter, J. W. Mackay, Jr., J. Dunbar Wilder, Marguerite de Noe, Miss Rose Pompon, the Rev. A. Tanqueray and J. M. Wiley, United States Consul to Bordeaux.

Some of the passengers on the Cunard Line steamer Erraria, bound for Liverpool, were the Marquis and Marquise de Casa Montalvo, Captain J. L. Thornley, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gilbey, Henry Gilbey, Jr., Miss Margaret V. Gilbey, Mr. and Mrs. Hawkes and Baroness Rappin.

On the North German Lloyd steamer Trape, for Southampton and Bremen, were Captain Godman, Colonel and Mrs. William Mayer and Miss Maria Salazar.

George Kennan, the writer on Siberia, arrived here on the Cunard Line steamer Campania yesterday and started for Washington in the afternoon. Mr. Kennan had been in England, and the greater part of his time abroad he spent in London. While at the English capital he was entertained by A. Conan Doyle, J. M. Barrie, Henry M. Stanley, James Bryce, M. P., and Sir George O. Trevelyan.

"I went to London," said Mr. Kennan yesterday to a Tribune reporter, "to make arrangements for a course of lectures upon Siberia, which I shall deliver in England next January. I also spent some time in gathering material for a new book, which will be published soon. No, this work does not treat of Siberian outrages, although it is upon a subject connected with the Russian Government."

"Did you meet any Russian exiles when abroad?" asked the reporter.

"While in London," said Mr. Kennan, "I had frequent conferences with members of the Society of Friends of Russia and with other persons interested in Russian affairs. I did not go to Russia or Siberia, for reasons that are well known. I was barred out of there, you know."

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CUFFS AND
TRADE MARK
THE BEST MADE

FREE SWIMMING BATHS IN FULL SWING.

HUNDREDS OF SMALL BOYS RIVAL THE MAIDS
IN THE VARIOUS RACES ALONG
THE EAST AND HUDSON RIVERS.

When Shakespeare exclaimed: "What a noble animal is man!" it is not unreasonable to suppose that he might have added, "and boy, too," under certain circumstances. The boy who exists one's sympathy by reason of his hard lot, and the little dweller in a tenement room, where a breath of fresh air seldom or never is felt, has had bestowed upon his condition some pitying words. But did you ever see these boys disappear themselves? Did you ever see them pitching pennies, or playing checkers with pebbles, or eating pie, or saying: "Boy, Jiminy, give it to be broke in de neck. He's too fresh, see?" Those who did will be better prepared for the scene at any one of the bathing places which are now in full running order on the Hudson and the East River, and, of course, at the Battery. It outdoes any of the other things in the way of boyish pleasure and enjoyment that you may have looked upon. Should you feel inclined to make a visit of this character, here is a list of the baths with the names of the policemen in charge: The Battery, Michael Bruce and John O'Neill; Horatio St., Thomas J. Cavanaugh and John J. Geraghty; Market St., John P. Kelly and Patrick C. Williamson; Grand St., William J. Dewey and Thomas Brophy; East Fifth St., Peter E. James and George S. McDermott; East Eighteenth St., David D. Porter and John P. Barrett; East Twenty-eighth St., Thomas Burke and Henry J. Smith; East Fifty-first St., Cornelius Kelly and Michael Ward; Duane St., George H. Taine and John H. Hargrave; East Ninety-fourth St., William Regan and John Goffrey; East One-hundred and Twelfth St., John Jordan and Charles H. Lashburn; East Twenty-third St., John Raleigh and George M. Shidmore; West Twenty-third St., William J. Dewey and Louis Schneider; West Forty-fourth St., Thomas H. Hackett and William T. McKee; West One-hundred and thirty-fourth St., Joseph Sawyer and William Kitchen.

The Tribune reporter went to the Horatio St. bath to see how they managed matters there. This was the last one to be made ready, as the doors were thrown open for the first time this season yesterday. The reporter counted 174 boys, whose ages ranged from about four to fourteen, splashing, and diving, and yelling, and kicking, and laughing, with a sense of enjoyment so absolute that you would begin to think the urinals were not "hand animals" at all. They are mainly the children of the poor. Most of them were shapely and well formed. They all seemed perfectly at home. The smallest among them displayed some of the most successful pluck from the steps into the rail-off space which is made shallow for those who have not as yet learned to swim. Each of the policemen who gets a post at one of the baths seems to be an easy thing. He would sooner have a trip to Europe. Every last "number of the force" is after one of these places. It looks simple enough, but that's because you don't know how it is done. A "copper" man "has his place" at least one year in advance, and he is not to be disturbed. The reporter counted 174 boys, whose ages ranged from about four to fourteen, splashing, and diving, and yelling, and kicking, and laughing, with a sense of enjoyment so absolute that you would begin to think the urinals were not "hand animals" at all. They are mainly the children of the poor. Most of them were shapely and well formed. They all seemed perfectly at home. The smallest among them displayed some of the most successful pluck from the steps into the rail-off space which is made shallow for those who have not as yet learned to swim. Each of the policemen who gets a post at one of the baths seems to be an easy thing. He would sooner have a trip to Europe. Every last "number of the force" is after one of these places. It looks simple enough, but that's because you don't know how it is done. 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